

Picking Teeth

Deer eat tender leaves and shoots. Sometimes they eat grass. Compared to wolves, deer have an easy time getting food. Usually, it's a matter of browsing on vegetation that grows in their habitat. What do you think the INCISORS are for? What about the MOLARS? Animals with hooves are called UNGULATES. What other ungulates can you name? Make a list!

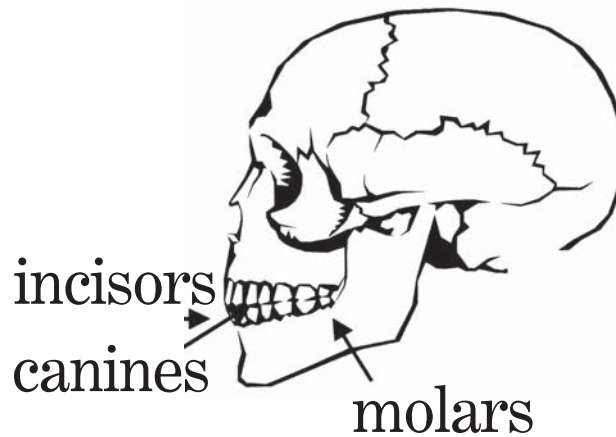
Deer
Herbivore



incisors

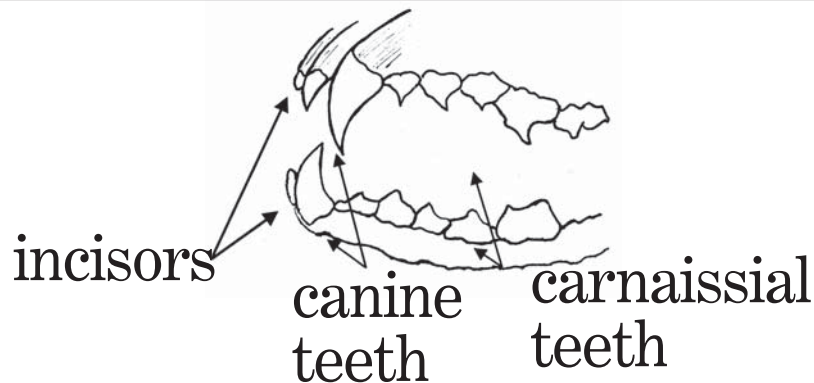
molars or
cheek teeth

Human
Omnivore



Adult humans have 32 teeth and eat both meat and plants. How are human teeth adapted to the foods humans eat? What are the INCISORS for? How about the MOLARS? Humans have modified canine teeth beside the molars. What is the purpose of these CANINE teeth?

Wolf
Carnivore



The bones of the WOLF'S jaw are heavy. The muscles of the jaw are strong, too. The jaws have great crushing power. Wolves have 42 teeth. The 6 INCISORS in each jaw are for gnawing and nibbling. The CANINES, 2 in each jaw, are 3/4 to one inch long from the gumline in red wolves! Wolves use the canines to grip and hold prey. The canines are the wolves knives and forks! The CARNAISSIAL teeth are special molars that act like scissors for shearing and cutting.